

## The Knowledge Bank at The Ohio State University

### Ohio State Engineer

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# THE OHIO STATE ENGINEER

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## From the Editor

It is often pleasing for older people to lean back in their chairs and reminisce. It might prove worthwhile and interesting for us to practice this occasionally. Perhaps by turning back through two and a half feet of pages of old copies of *The Engineer* to the first issue we can glean some knowledge of the history of our college. Volume I, Number 1, of *The Engineer* was published in January, 1918, just twenty-one years ago. This first issue was dedicated to Charles Kettering in appreciation of his notable contributions to engineering science and his keen interest in the Ohio State University.

At that time "Pop" Coddington was Acting Dean of the College. A letter from him to the readers was placed under a beautiful picture of Lord Hall. Just why Lord Hall was chosen is not evident, perhaps it had just been built or perhaps it was the only picture available. The first article, "The Electrical Engineer of Today" was written by a man whose name is familiar to most engineers, Mr. B. G. Lamme, then chief engineer of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company. Professor C. E. Sherman had a very interesting article titled "What is Best in an Engineering Education". Turning back farther we found material written by Professors Watts, Norman, and Olin (who was then in the Chemistry department).

Another article that attracted our particular attention was "Human Engineering in Columbus" by R. L. Dickinson, then Industrial Secretary of the Y. M. C. A. Mr. Dickinson's son, Richard, is at present well known on the Quadrangle. He is a senior M. E. Professor T. E. French wrote an article concerning the stadium, for which the plans were then being drawn up. He stated that at that time there were only six complete stadiums in the country but that their "success had proven their value in the big, modern university." An editor's note at the end of the article stated that a large aviation field had been planned to extend south from the drill grounds, adjacent to the site of the proposed

stadium. This measure was taken because the War was not yet at an end and such action was necessary.

F. E. Smyser was editor and E. D. Vance business manager. One of the assistants, a department editor, was A. P. McManigal, a man whose talents are known to every present Ohio State student. Then, as now, the engineers were well represented on the football team. The team had, the previous season under the guidance of quarterback Yerges, won the Western Conference championship for the second consecutive year. Six engineers won letters the previous season, among them Mr. H. G. Courtney, at present a prominent Columbus businessman. When we consider that there were never more than sixteen or seventeen letters awarded, the college of engineering was certainly well represented. Three of these six were picked on All-Western and All-American teams.

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After twenty-one years we are still publishing a magazine. Many, many changes have been made but the name and the original purpose remain the same. There seems to be no way to find out whether or not the present magazine is satisfactory to the students. Probably for twenty-one years each editor has been puzzled by this problem and just as probably each one finally decided that as long as there were no complaints his efforts must be successful. We have heard recently that some readers would like to have us start our humor page again. The magazine's board of control feels that a humor page really doesn't belong in an engineering publication but, if you have any ideas on the subject, let us know.

With this issue we plan to inaugurate a policy which, for a number of years has not been practiced; that of selling *The Engineer* on newstands. We feel certain that we can successfully compete with a number of so-called "magazines" that are now on sale. In the next issue we will start a new series of articles which will be written by successful Ohio State Engineering graduates. These articles should be enjoyable and enlightening.